

| REPORT COVER SHEET | | 22 SECRET | PROCESSING ACTION 3P |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| FROM [Costa Rica] 16-15 | REPORT NO. HRS-4108 | | COVER SHEET MARKED FOR INDEXING |
| REPORTING OFFICER Jesse R. GARDALPHE | DATE OF REPORT 7 March 1968 | X | NO INDEXING REQUIRED OPS DATA REPORTED SEPARATELY |
| REPORTS OFFICER Christine T. RATHWICK | PROJECT [HUGLIB] 01 | | CS DISSEMINATION |
| APPROVING OFFICER Giles E. CORRIGAN | SOURCE CRYPT [HUGLIB-5] 01 | | TOCS DISSEMINATION |
| FIELD DISTRIBUTION | | | |
| INTRA-AGENCY | | EXTRA-AGENCY | |
| 3 - Headquarters, w/mat 1 - JMWAVE 16-8 1 - Port-au-Prince 1 - Managua 16-221 2 - Files | | 1 - State, Army 16-7 1 - CINCSO through [Panama City] | |
| SUPPLEMENTAL DATA | | | |
| 1. A thermofax copy of MELO's letter is enclosed (with advance copies of report) for Headquarters only. 01 An electrostatic copy is forwarded to JMWAVE. It was [HUGLIB-5] who searched MELO and made copies of the letter. Source also reported that MELO had given his New York address as 1422 Nelson Avenue, Apt. 6-L, Bronx 59. He gave MADRIGAL's New York telephone numbers as MO 9-4841 and MO 5-8621. According to [HUGLIB-5] MELO said he is now living in New York. 01 [HUGLIB-5] also reported that on the morning of 3 March Daniel ODUBER's chauffeur and Gustavo LORA, a Cuban exile, visited [HUGLIB-8] at the airport and politely asked why MELO had been searched; [HUGLIB-8] 01 replied that MELO's movements were of interest to the GOCR. | | | |
| 2. One possibly significant, unanswered question in this affair is why MELO was carrying the original of a letter which he presumably had mailed to Madrigal on or about 9 February. | | | |
| 3. The information re Pinto in the "[redacted] Comment" is from [HRS-3837] (source [HUGLIB]) which was disseminated as a CSDB. 22 01 | | | |

FIELD INFORMATION REPORT



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S-E-C-R-E-T

REPORT NO

DATE DISTR 7 March 1968

COUNTRY Costa Rica

DCI 9 February - 4 March 1968

SUBJECT Letter, Written by Fernando Melo,
Indicating That Negotiations
Between Ludwig Starke and Rolando
Masferrer Were Not Progressing
Well. *Typewritten on stationery of Rogelio B. Pinto Impressos.*

ACQ Costa Rica, San Jose
 (4 March 1968)

FIELD NO (HRS) 4108
 22

SOURCE

22

1. (Field Comment: The following report should be read in conjunction with TDCS-314/01096-68 (ERS) 4065) and 22 (ERS) 4099, which reported that Fernando Melo Fontanills, a Cuban exile in Costa Rica, was serving as an intermediary in negotiations between Ludwig Starke Jimenez, a Costa Rican right-wing extremist, and Rolando Masferrer, a Cuban exile in the United States who was involved in plotting against the government of President Rene Duvalier of Haiti. The negotiations dealt with a plan whereby Starke would provide a staging area for an invasion of Haiti by Haitian and Cuban exiles under Masferrer's leadership. In return Masferrer, if successful, would subsequently support a move by Starke against the Costa Rican Government. Melo was reported to be planning a trip to New York on 21 February 1968 to talk with Masferrer and the latter's representative in the negotiations, Father Diego Madrigal Alvarez.)

2. When Melo returned to San Jose on 2 March after visiting New York City and Miami, Florida, he was detained and searched by security officials at the airport. Among Melo's possessions the security officials found a letter, signed by Melo, addressed to Father Diego Madrigal, New York. The letter was dated 9 February 1968. It was typewritten on letterhead stationery of Rogelio B. Pinto Impressos.

Comment: Melo sells printing equipment and thus may have a business connection with the Pinto firm; however, Rogelio Pinto has been reported in the past to have been involved in plotting against the Costa Rican Government.)

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